



Utah Department of Natural Resources Water Resources

The need to use our current water supply as efficiently as possible has been recognized by the Office of Legislative Research and General Council (Water Conservation through Landscaping - Current Efforts and Options) and the Governor's Budget included \$5M to the Utah Division of Water Resources for secondary water metering and water efficiency. Below is what the Division would focus the funding on.

Secondary Water Meters – \$2.5M: This would retrofit 1250 meters or cost-share 50% and require water use data to evaluate how much water is being saved.

Installing secondary meters provides an estimated savings of 33,000 to 65,000 gallons per year per meter (estimate provided by Weber Basin Water Conservancy District). Equating to 41,250,000-81,250,000 gallons saved.

Flip Your Strip – \$1.5M: 50% cost share with water conservancy and municipalities up to \$1.5M. Cost-sharing would allow for more park strips to be converted to waterwise landscape.

Removing lawn from park strips will save an estimated 5,000-8,000 gallons of water per strip each year per Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District's flip your strip program. If the average strip is 270 sq ft, then approximately 8,800 strips could be flipped. Equating to 44,000,000-70,400,000 gallons saved.

Water Loss Audits (Leak Detection) – \$500,000: This would train 50 systems on water audits (may be more or less depending on training costs). Systems that are trained and complete a water audit will be required to submit a report to the Division.

A range of 150,000,000-575,000,000 gallons of real losses were identified by doing Water Loss Audits in two pilot projects (range of 12 water systems). If 10% of the low end were fixed for all of the trained 50 systems



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in the following year, approximately 750,000,000 gallons would be saved each year.

Slow The Flow – \$500,000: This would allow the campaign to reach throughout the entire state rather than focusing only on densely populated areas (comparable to UCAIR). It would also provide funds to do statewide surveys and focus groups to evaluate the effectiveness of the campaign goals.

Performance Metric – Through these strategies and tactics (or any combination), the Division would anticipate saving 835,250,000 gallons (approx. 2600 acre-ft) in the first year. This would be estimated by summarizing the water savings of the number of meters installed, total square feet of strips flipped, and number of water loss audits performed.

Performance Metric – for Slow The Flow: At the end of a watering season—analysis will be done to evaluate the audiences – did they make a different choice, behavior change, etc. Measuring feelings, attitudes and behaviors through online surveys and focus group interviews. This will produce a qualitative analysis of how the campaign is influencing the public to make waterwise decisions.